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Maple Forest.....	F. F. Richardson
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MILLIONS IN ASHES.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE BREAKS OUT IN HULL, CANADA.

Loss of \$20,000,000—Flames Sweep Across River and Wipe Out Industrial District of Ottawa—Many Casualties Reported.

One of the most disastrous fires in the history of Canada broke out at Hull at 11 o'clock Thursday morning. The loss at 10 o'clock Thursday night was estimated at upward of \$18,000,000. Hull is a place of 10,000 people, on the Quebec side of the Ottawa river.

Fanned by a furious gale of wind from the northwest, which continued with unabated violence all day and far into the night, the flames swept everything before them, wiping out the whole city, crossed large sections of territory, ran through the vast lumber yards, filled with piles of pine lumber, and into the Ottawa-Chaudiere district.

In a half hour's time from the outbreak the flames were beyond the control of both the fire departments of Hull and Ottawa, and within an incredible space of time had swept a pathway a mile long through Hull, leaped across the narrow part of the river at the Chaudiere falls, and had gained a footing among the lumber piles on the Ottawa side.

From thence it cut a wide swath through the whole of the western portion of Ottawa, through Rochester, and into the suburb of Hintonburg. The pathway of the flames was about five miles in length.

Most of the buildings which were burned at the outset were wooden, and the flames, forced by the high wind, licked them up like shavings. Household effects that were carried into the streets, and such as were moved upon carts for removal, were consumed in many instances where they stood.

The whole industrial district of Ottawa has been completely wiped out. This includes the great factories of E. B. Eddy, consisting of woodworking, match, pulp, and paper factories, valued at \$1,500,000. The large lumber mills of Booth, Bronson, the Hull Lumber Company, Gilmore & Hugeson, and others, together with the flour mills of McKay, were also destroyed. As a result 7,000 operators are thrown out of employment and 20,000 persons rendered homeless in both cities.

About 100,000,000 feet of manufactured pine lumber has been consumed. Practically the whole of the city of Hull is blotted out, and had the wind been blowing from a westerly direction, nothing could have saved Ottawa from like destruction.

The fire originated, it is said, from a defective chimney, but not an hour had elapsed after it had gained a foothold on the Ottawa side when flames were seen to break out in three different places in that city over an extent of two miles from the river side. Another suspicious circumstance was the fact that the fire broke out at the lumber mill of Booth, Bronson, on the river on the Hull side and to windward of the main fire. This was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. Other coincidental fires in Ottawa which during the day broke out in unexpected places, were also, it is thought, the work of fire bugs.

The Ottawa Electric Company's principal power house was burned early in the day and the street car service was put out of business. The Parliament buildings were at one time threatened by the burning timber which floated down the river and several times the bushes in the esplanade aflame. All business in the city was suspended and the House of Commons met for a few minutes, then adjourned.

Many serious accidents happened, but so far as reported there have been only three fatalities, one being that of Chief Bennett, of the Hull fire brigade, who was so seriously burned that he died, but with such a large and rapidly spreading fire the death list must be larger.

The Canadian Pacific Railway depot and much rolling stock standing in the yards were wiped up by the flames. The iron traffic bridge, which is the one at present between Ottawa and Hull, is also gone and travel can now only be made by ferry.

A conservative estimate of the total loss so far sustained by the two cities is placed at from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000, of which the loss in lumber alone will amount to over \$10,000,000.

Over 200 applications are on file for the vacant pulp of the Presbyterian Church at Atchison, Kan.

The Forsyth Street Methodist Church, New York, celebrated its 111th anniversary last Sunday.

The Rev. Father Ducey of St. Leo's Roman Catholic Church, New York, is conducting a series of special services for actors.

A marble tablet in memory of Dr. John Hall has been placed in the vestibule of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York.

Descendants of the missionaries in the Hawaiian Islands constitute about one-twentieth of the white population, exclusive of the Portuguese.

The Rev. Dr. Lathrop of St. George's Episcopal Church, New York, says he believes that the only thing to be done among the poor of that city is to teach them love of country first. Religious sentiment will then, he says, follow naturally.

Through the efforts of Catholic men, women and children, who volunteered to work as solicitors, the sum of \$31,200.49 has been raised among the various city and country parishes of the Philadelphia archdiocese to support the Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo at Overbrook.

The Rev. Arthur Crane, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Charleston, S. C., has been visiting the gambling houses and resorts of that city and making disclosures relative to them in his sermons. Many of his congregation have expressed their disapproval.

The trustees of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York, in the call to the Rev. Dr. Purves agreed to furnish him a suitable home, but, owing to a scarcity of houses convenient to the parish, they are experiencing considerable embarrassment in carrying out the contract.

CONDITION OF CROPS.

Improvement Reported in the Appearance of Winter Wheat.

The summary of the crop conditions throughout the country, as shown by the weekly crop report issued by the weather bureau, is as follows:

"The temporary conditions were generally highly favorable, but excessive rains in the Southern States greatly interfered with farm work and caused destructive floods. In portions of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana much replanting will be necessary as a result of the inundation. Farm work has also been retarded as a result of heavy rains in the eastern portion of Kansas and Nebraska and Southern Missouri. Rain is much needed in Montana, North Dakota and over the northern portion of Minnesota. While freezing temperatures occurred in the upper Missouri Valley and middle and northern Rocky Mountain regions, it appears that no serious injury has been done.

The week has not been favorable for the rapid progress of corn planting, but preparations for this work have been active in the more northerly sections and under favorable weather conditions will progress rapidly. Planting has been generally retarded where not completed in the Southern States, and also from Kansas and Oklahoma westward over the central Mississippi Valley, being later than for many years in Tennessee.

"An improvement in the condition of winter wheat is generally reported, except in Michigan and Wisconsin, where plowing up for other crops continue. With ample moisture and favorable temperature the crop has made rapid growth in the central valleys and Southern States, its condition in Kentucky and Indiana being exceptionally fine. Wheat is heading in Texas, where a good yield is indicated. The favorable outlook on the Pacific coast, except in Southern California, continues. Early sown spring wheat is coming up to good stands over the southern portion of the spring wheat region. Seeding is now nearly completed, except in North Dakota and Montana, where from one-quarter to one-half of the crop is yet to be sown. All reports respecting the oat crop are encouraging, seeding being well advanced in the northern sections."

DEATH IN CHICAGO LABOR RIOT.

Union Picket Leads an Attack and Is Killed.

In an attack upon non-union men employed at the Baker-Vawter company, lithographers in Chicago, where a strike is in progress, Peter Miller was shot through the head and instantly killed by H. C. Baster, superintendent of the factory. John McGuire was also shot through the right arm and right cheek by the superintendent and severely injured, though not fatally. In addition to this affair, the labor situation was intensified by the arrest of George P. Gubins, president of the Bricklayers' Union. He was taken on a charge of inciting riot.

The trouble at the Baker-Vawter company's plant which almost assumed the proportions of a riot was the outcome of a strike which has been in existence at the factory since last January.

The Burlington may pull the Northern Pacific tracks to Ogden.

The Canadian Pacific Railroad agreed to join other roads in abolishing commissions.

The extension of the C. & E. I. from Marion to Thebes, Ill., has been opened for passenger business.

It is reported that the Nickel Plate road will put in service another Chicago-New York passenger train.

The Lake Shore has put into service a new train from Chicago to Boston, which will make the 1,039 miles in twenty-six hours.

Benefactor Sisters of Charity in uniform will sell the late tickets for the Central Passenger Association lines without the necessity of their securing clergy certificates.

All the roads from Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City to Colorado will follow the example of the Rock Island and run excursions at half rates to Denver, Pueblo and Colorado Springs.

Chicago capitalists have purchased a controlling interest in the Munising Railroad, which runs from Munising Bay to Little Lake, Mich., a distance of sixty miles. The purchase is incident to the acquisition of over 80,000 acres of Michigan timber land.

Justice Shiras of the United States Supreme Court has handed down a decision that Ashland and not Duluth is the Eastern terminal of the Northern Pacific road.

By reason of this decision a large area of valuable timber land comes into possession of the road.

Attorneys for six big Western land grant railroads have decided to sue the United States Government for nearly \$300,000 for carrying soldiers from Chicago to San Francisco during the Spanish-American war. Immediately after the close of the war the roads filed claims for transporting the troops. The claims asked for full tariff rates, less deductions of 50 per cent made by the lines which hold land grants. The Government refused to recognize the claims, alleging that the railroads were not entitled to rates higher than are charged parties of twenty or more persons traveling on one ticket, known in railway parlance as "party rates." In addition to this the Controller contended that the land grant roads must deduct 50 per cent.

The Rockefeller are reported to have obtained control of the Missouri Pacific and will consolidate it with the Missouri, Kansas and Texas.

A train of twenty-five flat cars loaded with thrashing machines from a Racine, Wis., factory was taken west from Chicago by the Burlington. A private car and a brass band accompanied the train.

The Central Passenger Association has decided to adopt a composite ticket, with coupons for both first and second class passengers in order to do away with any opportunity for the roads to offer sleeping car service on second class tickets.



—St. Paul Pioneer-Press.

FOREST FIRES IN THE NORTH.

Vast Areas in Minnesota and Manitoba Wrapped in Flames.

Almost the entire northern portion of Minnesota and the lower portion of Manitoba is in flames. In Minnesota the fire extends for many miles through St. Louis and Itasca counties in the heavy pine timber of the State. Already several small settlements have been wiped out and as the fire spreads and grows the bigger towns are threatened.

The loss of life will, it is believed, be heavy, as reports received in Minnesota show that many persons have already perished. In the path of the flames were the homes of hundreds of settlers and homesteaders. Searching parties with wagons and accompanied by doctors and nurses, are scouring the edges of the burning district in the hope of picking up persons who have managed to escape, although the chances of finding many are small. It is the opinion that the loss of life will equal that of the Hinckley fire of a few years ago, when nearly 400 persons lost their lives.

For the first time in many years the timber country in the northern portion of Minnesota and in the lower portion of Manitoba is as dry as tinder, caused by the lack of rain and the absence of heavy snow last winter. The fire has already invaded the proposed national park of Minnesota, in the Leech lake region, and the small towns in that locality are fighting for life.

The country between Hibbing and Swan river, 100 miles northwest of Duluth, is one vast furnace, with little chance of escape for the settlers living within the fire lines. Thus far half a hundred or more logging camps, in addition to several small towns, have been swept away and not a word has been heard from the hundreds of men employed in them.

Winnipeg dispatches say that the forest fires along the southeastern border are still raging, but the exact amount of damage or loss of life has not been ascertained. An entrapped special train succeeded in breaking through the flames after one of the most thrilling trips in the history of railroading. It brought in with it several stragglers found in a desperate condition near Vassar. Besides immense quantities of ties and wood, two large lumbering outfits with forty wagons and over sixty other wagons are known to be burned. The drivers and bushmen have scattered in all directions and out of 200 only about thirty are known to have reached a place of safety. The remainder are doubtless struggling desperately through the woods for their lives.

OKLAHOMA ELEVEN YEARS OLD.

Youngest Territory Now Has Population of Over 400,000.

Oklahoma is eleven years old. In April, 1889, the first strip of Indian lands was opened to white settlers. The Cherokee strip, with its 4,014,230 fertile acres, was opened in 1888, and now the territory's settled area is something over 19,000,000 acres. The area of Oklahoma is 38,715 square miles. There are now twenty-three organized counties and the population is over 400,000. The assessed valuation of property of the territory for 1898 was \$42,982,414. There are twenty-five towns with a population of over 3,000, six with a population of over 5,000, and two with a population of over 10,000. There are four territorial school buildings that cost nearly \$1,000,000.

At a recent meeting of a New York labor union one of the delegates from the bakers' union lodged a complaint against a number of bakeshops, which he said were a menace to the public health. He said that men and animals slept together in these bakeshops, and he asked the union to request the Board of Health to make an investigation.

A German physician explains why red-haired persons seldom seem to get so bald as others. Red hairs are so thick that 30,000 cover a head as well as 100,000 blonde or 100,000 black hairs.

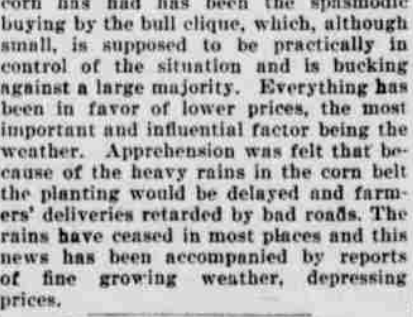
COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL.

New York—The outlook for the iron and steel trade has been the subject of considerable comment, both in speculative and legitimate business circles. Statements coming from authorities on the situation have been decidedly conflicting.

The closing down of several of the American Steel and Wire mills caused considerable excitement for a time, but the conviction has been forcing itself home upon most people that the whole thing was merely the act of a reckless and desperate gambler in the stock markets. Wall street naturally suffered some disturbance by reason of this move.

Chicago—After a week of comparative dullness the grain and provision markets closed at a decline. There continued to be an abundance of news of a bearish nature and of quite as much importance to all the grain markets were the reports and statistics of the last seven days, as was the Government crop report the previous week. This season of the year brings with it the irrepressible, ever-varying prospects for the new crops which never fail to cause anxiety and arouse interest among speculators. The spread between the prices of the May and July options held steadily at 1 1/2c. A spread of 2c is the general talk. The only support corn has had has been the speculative buying by the bull clique, which, although small, is supposed to be practically in control of the situation and is bucking against a large majority. Everything has been in favor of lower prices, the most important and influential factor being the weather. Apprehension was felt that because of the heavy rains in the corn belt the planting would be delayed and farmers' deliveries retarded by bad roads. The rains have ceased in most places and this news has been accompanied by reports of fine growing weather, depressing prices.

HE IS WITH US AGAIN.



Ninety Houses Burned.

Ninety of the houses in the plague-stricken portion of Kobe, China, have been burned to stamp out the plague. The Mitsui bank defrayed the cost of moving the occupants and furnishing new homes, receiving in return the site of the burned houses.

Arrest of a Count.

Count de Toulouse Lautrec, Polish nobleman, soldier of fortune, and scholar, who claims the Prince of Wales among his acquaintances, was arrested at the Auditorium Hotel in Chicago as he was looking over a bundle of mail. Forgeries to the extent of several thousand dollars, in which banks in Montreal and Quebec were victimized, are charged against him.

RAINS DELUGE THE SOUTH.

Drenching Torrents Fall Over All the Flooded District.

The flood situation in Louisiana and Mississippi was just beginning to brighten when it began pouring rain over most of the same district again. Reports from Mississippi and Louisiana tell of a steady, drenching fall and that the streams are again raging.

This flood has been the most destructive of any within the memory of the oldest inhabitants. One in 71 approached it, but the ruin was not so widespread. From Vicksburg on the Mississippi river across to Jackson, thence on a line to Meridian, Miss., and on down to Mobile river and desolation mark the path of the great flood. Cotton and corn crops are totally destroyed and as the waters begin to recede the destitute condition of the people is just beginning to be revealed.

In Bayou Pierre district, one of the richest cotton sections of Mississippi, not only are the crops destroyed, but the subsoil of the fields has been washed to sea. A special from Enterprise, Miss., says the water is standing five feet deep in the houses and stores. In 71 it reached a height of only two feet in the buildings. The same river says all goods are ruined and that houses were carried off to the deep sea. All bridges which have been the means of ingress and egress have been swept away. The farmers all around the surrounding country are now in bad shape for making a crop this year. Most of them had put out their fertilizers and planted corn and cotton. Their fences have been swept away, the crops planted totally ruined and most of their live stock drowned.

SULTAN WILL PAY.

Uncle Sam's Threat to Send Warships Brings Favorable Reply.

The Porte has replied to the American demand for payment of the \$500,000 claimed as compensation for damages to American property during the Armenian massacres. The Sultan agrees to pay the Americans under the same conditions as apply to citizens of other foreign states who sustained losses in the same uprisings. The Sultan dreads an American naval demonstration in the Mediterranean, and his worry over the indemnity complication has had the effect of leading him to abandon the arbitrary raising of customs duties. Whereas the ambassadors hitherto lodged with his majesty four ineffectual protests, now he consents to payment of the \$500,000.

The representatives of the other great powers at Constantinople watch the issue of the Turco-American difficulty with great interest, correspondents say, for if the United States succeeds in getting a settlement from this bad debtor the other powers will demand the immediate adjustment of their claims. It is claimed by foreign correspondents that the American Government actually threatened to send the Turkish minister, Ali Feroush Bey, his passports unless the matter is quickly cleared up.

Notes of Current Events.

Japan is said to want to get a foothold in southern China.

George Houck's paint and tin shop, Springfield, Ohio, burned. Loss \$7,000.

George Seager and wife, Cincinnati, were robbed of \$1,500 worth of jewelry.

Gen. Botha's wife was a Miss Emmet, a descendant of a relative of the Irish patriot.

British Government expenditure is running now \$7,000,000 a week beyond revenue.

In the recent coal strike in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia some 60,000 hands were concerned.

There are more than 102,000 Free Masons in good and regular standing in the jurisdiction of the grand lodge of New York.

The price of the Transvaal sixpence in London is now 5 shillings. Kruger's pennies, however, are relatively more expensive.

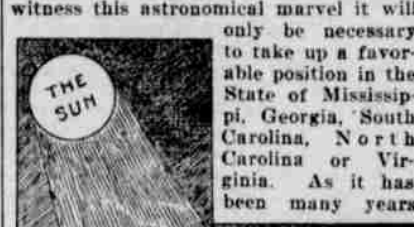
ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

PHENOMENON OCCURS MAY 28, AND WILL BE TOTAL.

In the Path of Totality the Orb of Day Will Be Obscured for Nearly Two Minutes—The Event Is Attracting World-Wide Attention.

The forthcoming total eclipse of the sun, on May 28, is attracting world-wide attention, and astronomers everywhere have long been making preparations for observing and photographing the phenomenon. Besides making the usual time observations, interest largely centers in photographing the corona, the coronal sphere, and particularly the celebrated flash spectrum appearing both at beginning and end of totality. Fortunately for us, it will be possible to witness the phenomenon from many sections of the United States. On the occasion of the last eclipse scientists who desired to study the sun during the brief period of totality hurried to western India, and many of them were successful in obtaining excellent photographs of the great event.

On May 28 the circular shadow of the moon cast by the sun upon the earth, and about eighty miles in diameter, will come sweeping across the American continent from New Orleans to Cape Henry. Along the center of the path traveled by the swiftly moving shadow the sun will be completely hidden for a period of about two minutes. More than forty miles away, on either side of the track the eclipse will be partial, not total. To witness this astronomical marvel it will only be necessary to take up a favorable position in the State of Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina or Virginia. As it has been many years



POSITION OF THE PLANETS.

since an eclipse has occurred under circumstances so favorable to American astronomers, it will undoubtedly be witnessed by thousands of students who have felt regret that previous exhibitions have occurred at distances so great as to prevent them from witnessing the events. An eclipse of the sun that will be visible to us can occur only when the moon is "new." At that time she passes exactly between us and the sun. If an eclipse should happen when she was at her least distance from us, say 222,000 miles away, the apex of the shadow would pass over our heads at a distance of many thousands of miles. In the first instance the eclipse will be total along the path made by the falling shadow. In the second instance the eclipse will be annular, as the moon will be so diminished that at no time will she be able to completely obscure the sun.

Prof. Langley, who is an authority upon sun eclipses, is enthusiastic in anticipation of the exhibition that is to be given next May. "Such eclipses," he says, "are impressive and awful to the last degree and must be seen to be appreciated. A total eclipse of the sun is worth a journey round the world to behold, and repetition does not dull the interest."

According to the calculations of Prof. Lumsden, the round black shadow of the moon, like a great arm, will sweep in out of space some time after sunrise on the morning of May 28. This gigantic arm will come into contact with the earth somewhere near the Revilla Gigeo islands in the Pacific ocean. With tremendous velocity the shadow will rush toward the mainland and will enter Mexico, near Corrientes, at a speed of more than 100 miles a minute. In eight minutes it will have crossed the Rocky mountains, and by 7:30 central or 8:30 eastern time it will have crossed the gulf and entered Mexico. Then on it will pass, over its selected path, until it is lost again in space.

The period of totality of the eclipse varies at different points along the track. At the Rocky mountains the spectacle will last but about thirty seconds, and New Orleans the period will have been lengthened thirty-seven seconds. At Union Point, Green County, Georgia, the center of the path for the United States, the time of totality will be ninety-two seconds, while those who are at the Atlantic coast, just south of the city of Norfolk, will be able to continue their observations for 105 seconds.

While the occasion will be a most interesting one to all who are able to witness the phenomenon to astronomers the event will be of the utmost importance, as there are several questions that they hope to be able to answer after they have made their next observations. One of the most important problems relates to the composition and arrangement of the various layers of vapor and dust that envelope the sun as with an atmosphere. Another relates to the existence and position of what is sometimes called the "reversing layer."

Municipal Matters.

The City of Mexico has 411 artesian wells.

Philadelphia has appropriated \$750,000 for new bridges.

Brooklyn has 31,087 apartment houses and 500,000 tenement house dwellers.

It is estimated that gamblers in New York have been paying over \$2,000,000 a year for "protection."

An agent of the New York State civil service board has been sent to Syracuse to investigate the municipal civil service commission.

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

M. E. CHURCH—Rev. O. W. Wilder, Pastor. Services at 10:30 o'clock a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday school at 12 m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Rev. G. L. Culbertson, Pastor. Regular services every 2nd and 4th Sunday in the month at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school at 12 o'clock and Y. P. S. C. E. at 6:30 every Sunday. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening.

DANISH EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH—Rev. A. P. W. Bekker, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and 7 p. m., and every Wednesday at 7 p. m. A lecture in school room 12 m.

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH—Rev. J. J. Whitely, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 7:30 p. m. except the third Sunday each month. Sunday-school at 1 p. m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH—Pastor H. Weber. Regular services the 2nd Sunday in each month.

GRAYLING LODGE, No. 356, F. & A. M. Meets in regular communication on Thursday evening at or before the full of the moon. J. E. MARR, W. M.

J. F. HURN, Secretary.

MARVIN POST, No. 240, G. A. R., meets the second and fourth Saturdays in each month. A. L. POND, Post Com.

J. C. HANSON, Adjutant.

WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS, No. 162, meets on the 1st and 4th Saturdays at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Mrs. J. M. JONES, President.

JULIA FOUNDER, Sec.

GRAYLING CHAPTER, R. A. M., No. 120—Meets every third Tuesday in each month. J. K. MARR, M. P.

A. TAYLOR, Sec.

GRAYLING LODGE, I. O. O. F., No. 127—Meets every Tuesday evening.

JOSEPH PATTERSON, R. G.

C. O. McCULLOUGH, Sec.

BUTLER POST, No. 31, Union Life Guards, meet every first and third Saturday evenings in W. R. C. Hall. H. DOUGHERTY, Captain.

P. D. BUCHER, Adjutant.

CHAWFORD TENT, K. O. T. M., No. 108—Meets every Saturday evening.

T. NOLAN, R. E.

GRAYLING CHAPTER, ORDER OF EASTERN STARS, No. 68, meets Wednesday evening at or before the full of the moon.

Mrs. A. G. GOULETT, W. M.

Mrs. FRED NARRIN, Sec.

COURT GRAYLING, I. O. F., No. 790—Meets second and last Wednesday of each month.

J. WOODBURN, G. R.

B. WINNER, R. S.

GRAYLING HIVE, No. 54, L. O. T. M.—Meets every first and third Wednesday of each month.

Mrs. G. G. GOULETT, Lady Com.

Mrs. F. WALDE, Record Keeper.

REGULAR CONVOCATION OF PORTAGE LODGE, No. 141, K. of P., meets in Castle Hall the first and third Wednesday of each month.

H. A. POND, K. of R. S.

L. T. WRIGHT, C. C.

GRAYLING COUNCIL, No. 8, R. & S. M., will hold their regular convocation on Friday, or before the full of the moon.

JULIUS K. MARR, T. J. M.

F. L. MICHELSON, Sec.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Crawford County

Exchange Bank

N. MICHELSON & R. HANSON,

PROPRIETORS.

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

Money to loan. Deposits of \$1.00 and upward received, subject to check on demand, and exchange sold.

Interest paid on certificates of deposit. Collections promptly attended to.

We guarantee every accommodation consistent with good banking.

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